



# CIRCLS '23 CONVENING

*Shaping AI and Emerging Technologies  
to Empower Learning Communities*  
November 2–3, 2023

## Welcome Guide 2023

<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>2</b>
Flying into the CIRCLS '23 Convening	2
Ground transportation	2
Bus	2
Subway	2
Train	2
Trolley	2
<b>LODGING &amp; VENUE</b>	<b>2</b>
Hotel: <a href="#">Westin Alexandria Old Town</a>	2
<b>COVID-19 PROTOCOLS &amp; GUIDELINES</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>OVERVIEW AND THEME</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>EVENT AGENDA</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ALEXANDRIA TRAVEL TIPS</b>	<b>5</b>
Weather	5
Attire	5
Local Medical Facilities	5
Nearby Restaurants	5
Local Attractions	6
<b>CIRCLS TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b>	<b>9</b>

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## TRANSPORTATION

### Flying into the CIRCLS '23 Convening

The Alexandria area is serviced by the [Reagan National Airport](#) (Airport Code: DCA). The Westin Old Town Alexandria is approximately 4.5 miles (20 minutes) from the Reagan National Airport.

#### Alternate Airports:

[Washington Dulles International Airport](#) (Airport Code: IAD) is approximately 30 miles from the venue.

[Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](#) (Airport Code: BWI) is approximately 45 miles from the venue.

### Ground Transportation

View the [map](#) for directions. The parking rates at the hotel are:

Hourly- \$25

Daily- \$25

Valet parking is available at an average rate of \$38 per day.

There is an Electric Car Charging Station. Uber/Lyft options are also available in the area.

### Bus Station

[DASH Line 32 - Jamieson Ave](#)

### Subway Stations

[Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority](#) (WMATA) The closest metro station is the [King St - Old Town Metro Station](#), which is approximately 0.4 miles from the venue (Blue and Yellow Lines).

### Train Station

[Amtrak: Alexandria Station](#) (ALX) is approximately 0.6 miles from the venue.

110 Callahan Drive

Alexandria, VA 22301-2752

### Trolley

[King Street Trolley](#)


Free trolley that operates year-round every 15 minutes (11:00 AM- 11:00 PM)



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## LODGING & VENUE

 **Hotel: [Westin Alexandria Old Town](#)**  
400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 253-8600



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## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS & GUIDELINES

While attending the in person event, we are asking all convening attendees to stay home if you are feeling sick. We also ask that you do not attend or participate in the convening if you meet any of the following:

- You have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not completed the [CDC's guidelines for discontinuing isolation](#).
- You are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

You have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, and you have not completed the quarantine guidelines recommended by the CDC.

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## OVERVIEW AND THEME

### ***Shaping AI and Emerging Technologies to Empower Learning Communities***

The CIRCLS'23 theme, "Shaping AI and Emerging Technologies to Empower Learning Communities" calls for attendees to prioritize educational goals and values as we design and investigate AI and other emerging technologies. The theme builds on the prior [CIRCLS'21](#) theme of "remaking broadening" and our shared aspiration to move beyond "broadening" to "empowering" learning, teachers, and learning community partners. This theme recognizes the broad surge in AI and emerging technology capabilities. We see a shift from a rapid technology proliferation perspective to instead a considerate and thoughtful design process that strives for equity by enabling teachers and learners to shape their own experiences. We seek to build on greater public awareness of generative AI. And yet, when we play with the letters "AI," we realize there is so much more to center in our conversations. As attendees share their research and collectively prioritize future explorations and investigations, our theme envisions a future where learning communities are empowered by ethical technologies grounded in sound, inclusive principles and strong partnerships.

Participants are welcome to bring explorations and investigations to the convening that reflect the breadth of research in our community and the RETTL Program. CIRCLS has a history of highly interactive, engaging, informative, and thought-provoking discussions through panels, roundtables, and expertise connections.



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We anticipate addressing the following topics in the convening:

- Emerging Technologies such as Machine Learning, Generative AI, Augmented Reality, Assistive Technologies and more
- Advances in Learning Sciences Methods and Theories
- Equity, Ethics and related design concepts (responsible or human-centered design)
- Insights on improving learning in specific STEM and broader subjects.
- Research in educational settings for learning in formal educational institutions and informal settings like museums

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## EVENT AGENDA

### Day 1: Thursday, November 2nd, 2023

**8:30 AM**      Networking and Registration

**9:00 AM**      Welcoming Remarks from NSF and Program Overview

**9:40 AM**      [Roundtables](#): Learn more about research projects while engaging with peers in small groups

**11:00 AM**     [Expertise Connection I](#): Develop your expertise and connections with experts

**12:15 PM**     Networking Lunch (provided)

**1:15 PM**      **Keynote: [Meredith Broussard](#)**



*Dr. Meredith Broussard is an associate professor at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University and 2018 Reynolds Journalism Institute Fellow. She is the author of two books: [Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World](#) (2019), and [More than a Glitch: Confronting Race, Gender, and Ability Bias in Tech](#) (2023).*

**2:15 PM**      Expanding CIRCLS

**03:15 PM**     [Expertise Connections II](#): Develop your expertise and connections with experts

**5:00 PM**      [Gallery Walk: Posters and Demos](#)



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## Day 2: Friday, November 3rd, 2023

- 8:30 AM** Registration
- 8:45 AM** NSF Funding Opportunities Panel
- 9:10 AM** All About CIRCLS and Our Community
- 9:45 AM** **Keynote: [Marcelo Worsley](#)**



*Dr. Marcelo Worsley is an Assistant Professor in Computer Science and Learning Sciences at Northwestern University. He directs the technological innovations for inclusive learning and teaching (tiilt) lab, which aims to develop pedagogical and technological solutions for supporting learning among diverse populations in hands-on, collaborative environments.*

- 11:00 AM** Youth Panel
- 11:40 AM** Networking Lunch (provided)
- 12:35 PM** Strategy Sessions: Plan and imagine the future of our community's research
- 2:00 PM** Town Hall: Share your community's vision for the future with NSF and each other
- 3:00 PM** Closing

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## ALEXANDRIA TRAVEL TIPS

### Weather

In November, the average high temperature in Alexandria is 57°F, and the average low is 39°F. Hotel temperatures can vary so we suggest wearing layers for the meeting space. We suggest you check the 10-day [forecast](#) for Alexandria.

### Attire

The attire for this event will be "business casual."

### Local Medical Facilities

#### [Inova Alexandria Hospital](#)

4320 Seminary Rd. Alexandria, VA 22304

Phone: (703) 504-3000

#### [Kaiser Permanente Alexandria Medical Center](#)

3000 Potomac Ave. Alexandria, VA 22305

Phone: (703) 721-6300



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## Nearby Restaurants

Dining at the [Westin Old Town Alexandria](#):

- [Trademark](#) (American cuisine)

### Walking distance:

Distance	Restaurant	Address	Cuisine	Phone
0.1 mi	<a href="#">Pasara Thai</a>	2051 Jamieson Ave	Thai	703-299-8747
0.2 mi	<a href="#">Sweet Fire Donna's</a>	510 John Carlyle St	Barbeque	571-312-7960
0.4 mi	<a href="#">Quattro Formaggi</a>	1725 B Duke St	Italian	703-548-8111
0.4 mi	<a href="#">San Antonio Bar &amp; Grill</a>	200 Swamp Fox Rd	Tex-Mex	703-329-6400
0.4 mi	<a href="#">Table Talk Restaurant</a>	1623 Duke St	Diner	703-548-3989
0.5 mi	<a href="#">Joe Theismann's Restaurant</a>	1800 Diagonal Rd	American	703-739-0777
0.5 mi	<a href="#">Delia's Grill &amp; Brickoven Pizza</a>	209 Swamp Fox Rd	Mediterranean	703-329-0006
0.5 mi	<a href="#">Ted's Montana Grill</a>	2451 Eisenhower Ave	American	703-960-0500

### Restaurant choices in Old Town Alexandria:

Take the [free trolley](#) from King St. Metro Station to historic Old Town Alexandria—just a short ride away!

Distance	Restaurant	Address	Cuisine	Phone
1.0 mi	<a href="#">Augie's Mussel House &amp; Beer Garden</a>	1106 King Street	Belgium	703-721-3970
1.0 mi	<a href="#">Hank's Oyster Bar</a>	1026 King St	Seafood	703-739-4265
1.2 mi	<a href="#">Hen Quarter</a>	801 King St	Southern	703-684-8969
1.2 mi	<a href="#">Don Taco</a>	808 King St	Mexican	703-518-8800
1.3 mi	<a href="#">Josephine's Brasserie &amp; Bar</a>	109 S St Asaph St	French	703-683-1776
1.3 mi	<a href="#">Columbia Firehouse</a>	109 S St Asaph St	American	703-683-1776
1.5 mi	<a href="#">Caphe Banh Mi</a>	407 Duke St	Vietnamese	703-549-0800
1.6 mi	<a href="#">Ada's on the River®</a>	3 Pioneer Mill Way	American	703-638-1400
1.6 mi	<a href="#">Vola's Dockside Grill</a>	101 N Union St	Seafood	703-935-8890
1.6 mi	<a href="#">Fish Market Restaurant</a>	105 King St	Seafood	703-836-5676
1.6 mi	<a href="#">Virtue Feed &amp; Grain</a>	106 S Union St	American	571-970-3559
1.6 mi	<a href="#">Chadwick's</a>	203 Strand St	American	703-836-4442
1.7 mi	<a href="#">Momo Sushi &amp; Cafe</a>	212 Queen St	Japanese	703-299-9092
2.0 mi	<a href="#">Haute Dogs and Fries</a>	610 Montgomery St	American	703-548-3891



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## Local Attractions

### [African American Heritage Trail](#)

The African American Heritage Trails comprise interconnecting routes in the City of Alexandria. Together, these trails illuminate the history of the African American community over a span of several centuries. The Trails currently have two routes along the Waterfront. The African American Heritage Trail Committee created this walking tour through history, with the support of the Office of Historic Alexandria.

### [Alexandria Archaeology Museum](#)

Visit the Alexandria Archaeology Museum to learn how the City's archaeologists, volunteers and students work with residents and developers to study and manage archaeological resources important to the community's past.

### [Alexandria Black History Museum](#)

The Alexandria Black History Museum includes the Museum, the Watson Reading Room, and the Alexandria African American Heritage Park. Other African American historic sites in Alexandria include the [Freedom House Museum](#), the [Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial](#), and sites along the [African American Heritage Trail](#).

### [Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum](#)

In 1839, the Lyceum Company, which promoted education in Alexandria, partnered with the Alexandria Library Company to build Lyceum Hall. The new building had a library and reading room on the first floor and a large hall on the second floor for lectures, debates, concerts, meetings, and other public programs.

### [Carlyle House Historic Park: 18th Century Mansion & Gardens](#)

Discover Carlyle House Historic Park, home to an eighteenth-century historic house museum in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. John Carlyle, a wealthy merchant and a founder of Alexandria, completed his elegant stone mansion in 1753. Today, Carlyle House is one of the nation's finest examples of Georgian residential architecture.

### [Freedom House Museum](#)

This national historic landmark features three new exhibitions showcasing Alexandria's Black history and the Black experience in America. Learn about the experiences of the enslaved and free Black people who lived in—and were trafficked through—Alexandria, plus stories from the Civil Rights Movement and more.

### [Gadsby's Tavern Museum](#)

Gadsby's Tavern Museum consists of two buildings, a ca. 1785 tavern and the 1792 City Tavern and Hotel, which hosted the first five U.S. presidents, Barrett Library, the site of one of the nation's earliest civil rights sit-ins and more.

### [George Mason's Gunston Hall](#)

The 1750s home of Virginia statesman George Mason, featuring Georgian design & 250-year-old shrubs.



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### [George Washington Masonic National Memorial](#)

Neoclassical shrine dedicated to George Washington, with ornate hall, museum & observation deck; This memorial was recently added to the United States government's official list of National Historic Landmarks and National Register of Historic Places.

### [George Washington's Mount Vernon](#)

George Washington's vast estate, furnished with period pieces & the president's own belongings.

### [National Inventors Hall of Fame and Museum](#)

The National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF) is free and located on the United States Patent and Trademark Office campus in Alexandria, Virginia. It showcases the more than 600 inventors who have been inducted into NIHF and their great technological achievements that helped stimulate growth for our nation and beyond.

### [Old Town Alexandria](#)

Old Town is a historic district along the Potomac that is chiefly known for its 18th-century townhouses, art galleries, antique shops, and restaurants as well as its unique cobblestone streets and red brick sidewalks. George Washington slept at Gadsby's Tavern, one of the many small museums in the area. Another is Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary, opened in 1783. Indie boutiques and foodie spots line King Street, and there are open-air eateries by the river. The Saturday farmers' market has been operating for 260 years.

### [River Farm](#)

The American Horticultural Society headquarters at River Farm is a 25-acre national showcase for gardening and horticultural practices located along the Potomac River.

### [Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum](#)

Opened in 1792 by young Quaker pharmacist Edward Stabler, the family business operated until 1933. Patrons included George & Martha Washington. Over 15,000 objects still remain as part of the museum's collection – everything from herbs to bottles.

### [The Birchmere Music Hall](#)

In music circles, the reputation of the Birchmere is legendary. Many careers have been launched from this internationally recognized music hall. On any given night, a star may be born. Mary Chapin Carpenter, Lyle Lovett, Shawn Colvin, Jerry Jeff Walker, Dave Matthews, Vince Gill, John Prine, Emmylou Harris, Linda Ronstadt, and k.d. Lang are just a few of the artists counted as good friends of the Birchmere.

### [Torpedo Factory Art Center](#)

Founded in 1974 in an old munitions plant, the Torpedo Factory Art Center is home to the nation's largest collection of working-artists' open studios under one roof.

### [Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House](#)

Early-1800s mansion & former plantation with a modest 1940 home designed by Wright in the grounds.



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## CIRCLS TEAM CONTACT

Please reach out to us if you have any urgent questions or need support. If you require immediate assistance on-site, please call [Amy Lozen](#) at: (734) 645-9665. Additionally, we will have a registration area for the meeting in the Edison Ballroom Foyer where staff will be available from 5 pm - 7 pm on Wednesday, during the meeting duration Thursday, and one hour before the meeting starts on both Thursday and Friday.

[Jeremy Rochelle](#)

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Developing a convening requires multiple means of collaboration. We are grateful for our team and Program Committee for their insights and input throughout this process.

### **Program Committee Members**

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We also want to acknowledge our: **Community Report Editors, Educator CIRCLS's Practitioners, Emerging Scholars, AI CIRCLS Mock Review Panel Fellows, and Youth Panel** members for their insightful contributions and active participation in the CIRCLS '23 Convening. We appreciate the opportunity to include multiple perspectives in our community.

### **Community Report Editors**

Darragh Byrne  
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Aleshia Hayes  
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Armanda Lewis  
Yingjie Liu  
Janice Mak  
Marlon Matilla  
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Carmen Ana Ramos-Pizarro

### **Youth Panel**

Alex Marin  
Becky Scheff  
Valentina Proskauer Valerio



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